

From: [R6HarveyFSC](#)
To: [R6HarveyInfo](#)
Subject: FW: Follow-Up on Site Inspection Charging
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 10:05:49 AM

From: Ragon, Carolyn
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 10:05:47 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: R6HarveyFSC; Bonnell, Corey; Spelman, John
Subject: RE: Follow-Up on Site Inspection Charging

Thank you John for sharing.

From: R6HarveyFSC
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Ragon, Carolyn <ragon.carolyn@epa.gov>; Bonnell, Corey <bonnell.corey@epa.gov>; Spelman, John <Spelman.John@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Follow-Up on Site Inspection Charging

This came up on the 7:30 am Emergency response finance call this morning. Reggie Cheatham spoke up and said all offices will need to charge against CERCLA for this. OCFO will be sending out additional guidance on this as early this afternoon. The guidance will most likely require Harvey tracking codes though. Most likely this would be done using the extended emergency response org code. So for us, the superfund employees going out to a site would use their normal accounting string including a site code but will use "06LOHVY" in the Org Code field instead of the normal "06L".

John

From: Ragon, Carolyn
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 5:12 PM
To: Bonnell, Corey; Spelman, John; R6HarveyFSC
Subject: RE: Follow-Up on Site Inspection Charging

Thanks Corey. I've been reading the MA since I got off the phone with John. Again, I do not believe the sites should be charged; however, please see below for consideration. I tried calling John first but got his voice mail. This is what the MA says;

EPA will use **CERCLA funds to pay for emergency response activities** related to all preexisting Superfund sites, that is, sites that have ongoing CERCLA response actions or are currently listed on the National Priorities List (NPL.)

I would argue that site assessments are not "emergency response activities":

Further down in the MA there is this paragraph that I believe allows for funding of site inspections to the Hurricane. The State (TCEQ) did request EPA's assistance.

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Activities that FEMA will fund through Stafford Act:

Clearly, these activities must be specifically requested by the State and be beyond the State's capability for a Mission Assignment and associated funding to be issued. Decisions will be made in consultation with the ESF #10 representative. Activities listed below are typical response actions that occur following a natural disaster.

- Staffing of pre-deployment teams (i.e., ROC, EST);
- Retrieving and disposing of orphan tanks and drums;
- Household hazardous waste program expenditures;
- Technical assistance to states;
- Pumping of water contaminated with hazardous materials or oil from basements when the problem is a widespread threat to public health;

- Initial assessments to determine if an immediate health and safety threat exists;

- Control and stabilization of releases of hazardous materials or oil to deal with immediate threats to public health and safety;
- Clean-up and disposal of hazardous materials that is necessary to mitigate immediate threats to public health and safety;
- Monitoring of immediate health and safety threats resulting from debris removal operations.

[The term "immediate" applies to a threat whenever it may occur which may not necessarily be right after the disaster event.]

From: Bonnell, Corey

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 5:02 PM

To: Ragon, Carolyn <ragon.carolyn@epa.gov>; Spelman, John <Spelman.John@epa.gov>; R6HarveyFSC <R6HarveyFSC@epa.gov>

Subject: Follow-Up on Site Inspection Charging

No problem Carolyn. Actually, after discussion in the Comptroller meeting we just had, it seems the MA does not allow for SF site inspections. So, my initial assessment would be wrong and the site would indeed be charged for the inspections, not Harvey response.

Thanks,
Corey

From: Ragon, Carolyn

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:00 PM

To: Bonnell, Corey <bonnell.corey@epa.gov>

Subject: follow-up

Corey:

I spoke with John to discuss emails regarding funding of site inspections. Should he ultimately have a different response/opinion than we discussed, then I would like to request that I be able to provide additional comments for consideration.

Thanks,
Carolyn